

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
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-----117259 111440Z /50

R 111235Z JAN 78
FM AMCONSUL DURBAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2789
INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
AMEMBASSY MASERU

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EO 11652: NA
TAGS: PINT, SF (TRANSKEI)
SUBJ: NCOKAZI ATTACKS MATANZIMA'S LEADERSHIP

REF: 77 DURBAN 0328

1. HECTOR NCOKAZI, LEADER OF TRANSKEI'S OPPOSITION DEMOCRATIC PARTY (DP) CONCLUDED PARTY'S EXTRAORDINARY CONGRESS JANUARY 3 WITH A BROAD AND SCATHING ATTACK ON THE MATANZIMA REGIME AND SOUTH AFRICA'S HOMELANDS POLICY. IN HIS KEYNOTE SPEECH NCOKAZI TERMED MATANZIMA'S REGIME "THE WORST GOVERNMENT IN THE HISTORY OF MANKIND." HE ATTACKED THE HOMELAND SYSTEM, COMMENDED UN AND OAU REJECTION OF THE S.A.'S BANTUSTAN POLICY AND URGED THE UN TO IMPOSE ECONOMIC SANCTIONS ON SOUTH AFRICA TO BRING ABOUT CHANGE. HE ALSO ACCUSED THE WEST OF BOLSTERING APARTHEID THROUGH INVESTMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA. HE CALLED UPON PRIME MINISTER VORSTER TO ORGANIZE A NATIONAL CONGRESS WITH THE "MANDELAS, SOBUKWES, TAMBOS AND RACHIDIS OF OUR NATION" TO FORMULATE A NEW POLITICAL DISPENSATION FOR SOUTH AFRICA.
DP CONGRESS, UNDER NCOKAZI'S LEADERSHIP, ALSO PASSED

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RESOLUTIONS CALLING FOR AN END TO DETENTIONS WITHOUT TRIAL (MOST OF THE DP LEADERSHIP HAS BEEN SO DETAINED AT ONE TIME OR ANOTHER BY THE SAG OR MATANZIMA), THE ESTABLISHMENT OF TRADE UNIONS, THE REMOVAL OF CHIEFS FROM THE ASSEMBLY AND THE ABOLITION OF THE TRIBAL AUTHORITIES. (THESE LAST POINTS ARE TWO OF THE PRINCIPAL MEANS THROUGH WHICH MATANZIMA RETAINS EFFECTIVE CONTROL OF TRANSKEI GOVERNMENT).

2. THESE ATTACKS AGAINST MATANZIMA AND THE HOMELANDS SYSTEM ARE THE HARSHEST SINCE TRANSKEI'S REPRESSIVE PUBLIC SECURITY ACT WAS APPROVED IN JUNE 1977 (REFTEL). THEY ARE SIGNIFICANT BOTH BECAUSE OF THE PERSONAL DANGER IN WHICH THEY PLACE THE OFTEN-ARRESTED DP PARTY LEADERSHIP AS WELL AS THE LEGAL/ POLITICAL POSITION IN WHICH THEY PLACE THE PARTY. THE CONGRESS, IN FACT, HAD BEEN CALLED TO AMEND THE PARTY'S CONSTITUTION, WHICH OPPOSED THE INDEPENDENCE OF TRANSKEI AND WHICH, IPSO FACTO, MADE PARTY'S LEADERS LIABLE TO CHARGES OF TREASON UNDER TRANSKEI'S NEW PUBLIC SECURITY LAWS. HOWEVER, THERE IS NO INDICATION THE CONSTITUTION WAS SO AMENDED. THE STAGE HAS THUS BEEN SET FOR A DIRECT CONFRONTATION WITH THE GOVERNMENT.

3. SO FAR NCOKAZI HAS NOT BEEN INTERFERED WITH BY THE GOT BUT THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE DP, MISS FLORENCE MANCOTYWA, WAS DETAINED FOR A DAY BY THE SECURITY POLICE SHORTLY AFTER THE END OF THE CONGRESS. SHE SAID THE POLICE ASKED ABOUT HER ATTITUDE TOWARD A UNIFIED SOUTH AFRICA AND RELEASED HER AFTER SHE WROTE AN 18 PAGE EXPLANATION. THIS IS THE THIRD TIME SHE HAS BEEN DETAINED BY SECURITY POLICE.
FARBER

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